

## **MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on May 11, 2010 at 9:37 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Cardella, Draper, Kraemer, and Robelotto  
Absent: Commissioners Craft, Thomas and Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino  
Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

### **FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Kraemer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **INSPIRATIONAL**

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspiration:

*Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.*

Dr. Seuss

Commissioner Cardella provided the following inspiration:

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.*

*Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*

Margaret Mead

### **ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Robelotto moved and Commissioner Draper seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of May 11, 2010. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Craft, Thomas and Chairperson Dagostino-Kimmel)

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Draper moved and Commissioner Robelotto seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of April 13, 2010. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Craft, Thomas and Chairperson Dagostino-Kimmel)

### **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Vickie Hershberger, Torrance Memorial Medical Center

Edgar Saenz, candidate for 53<sup>rd</sup> District State Assembly

Former Commissioner Griffith

### **SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS**

#### **A. City Council Activities**

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Rose Float design by Fiesta Floats was approved by City Council with a cost of approximately \$142,000, but that the Torrance Rose Float Association will reimburse the City \$10,000. She reported that the City Council was informed, in answer to an inquiry from one of the council members; that it would be extremely difficult to regain a position in the parade if the City decided to drop out for a year or more.

Commissioner Kraemer reported the following changes to the 2010 Fourth of July celebration at Wilson Park: there would be fewer vendors, there would be a return to old-fashioned games, such as sack races and there would be an increase in the parking fee, with resident and non-resident rates. She stated that the fireworks display would continue, but that this would be the last year that RV parking would be permitted at the park.

Commissioner Kraemer stated that the Students in Government Day, in which eighth grade students take over the positions of the Mayor and City Council members for the day, was very well done. She reported that the 22 students were selected from over 1000 essays that were submitted.

#### **B. Housing**

No report.

#### **C. Health**

Commissioner Cardella reported that ambulance service was no longer free.

Former Commissioner Griffith reported that Los Angeles County permitted a maximum of \$1200 to be charged for a 911 call, with a portion of the charge to be for the paramedics. She stated her concern that people have been trained to call 911 in the case of an emergency, but if the charge for the ambulance service is not fully covered by Medicare, the person receiving the service may end up paying the difference.

Commissioner Kraemer reported that the Successful Aging Expo would be held at the Torrance Marriot on May 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and the Aging Well lecture would be held at Torrance Memorial Medical Center on May 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Former Commissioner Griffith stated that 6-packs in Torrance were private homes, under a county program, that were redesigned in order to accommodate people who needed living assistance. Vickie Hershberger stated that Torrance Memorial Medical Center had referral agencies for the homes.

#### **D. Transportation**

Commissioner Cardella stated that a friend used the service of a Dial-a-Cab but had a problem because the cost was much more than the quoted price. Commissioner Cardella stated that she had reported the problem to Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand and Transit Administrative Manager Jim Mills, who was looking into the problem.

#### **E. Community Programs**

Commissioner Kraemer announced that the 2010 Armed Forces Day Parade would be on May 15.

Commissioner Draper stated that he would ride in the parade in a double-decker bus.

Former Commissioner Griffith reported that Dixie Meyer had arranged a tribute luncheon for Torrance World War II veterans before the parade.

Commissioner Kraemer announced that free tickets for the Coast Guard Band performances would be given away at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 12 at the Armstrong Theater.

Commissioner announced that tickets were \$30 for the Torrance Symphony fundraiser to be held on May 22.

Former Commissioner Griffith reported that any nonprofit that earned \$25,000 or less in a year needed to file their income tax forms by May 17 or be in danger of losing their nonprofit status.

## **F. Focal Point Program**

Commissioner Cardella reported the following Focal Point statistics for the month of:

### **April 2010**

|                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Total number of documented calls: 38 | Total number of callbacks: 26 |
| Miscellaneous calls: 91              | Total number of walk-ins: 35  |
| Total number of calls received: 129  |                               |

Of the documented calls:

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| 47.3% were in regard to Transportation | 21% were for housing |
| 10.5% were for legal                   |                      |

Commissioner Cardella also reported that Focal Point participated in one health fair and gave a presentation to church members.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Kraemer, Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that documented calls were calls in major categories that Focal Point tracked, while miscellaneous calls were calls for other agencies or categories that Focal Point did not follow up on or track.

## **G. Elder Abuse/Fraud**

Commissioner Kraemer announced that there would be a program at the Katy Geissert Library on May 18 at 10:00 a.m., entitled "Seniors, Don't Be Scammed".

## **JOINT MEETING WITH CITY COUNCIL**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that the date for the joint meeting was Tuesday, July 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the Commission Room in the West Annex.

She stated that the Commission had decided that the general topic to bring forward at the joint meeting was affordable senior housing with specific issues of: the extension of the mobile home park space rental subsidy program, an update on a shared housing program, and data from Focal Point calls and inquiries. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand also stated that the Commission would thank the City Council for their support of current senior programs in the city.

It was decided that Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand would work with City Council secretary, Margie, to order food for the joint meeting.

Responding to a question from Commissioner Kraemer, Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would ask for an update from D.R. Richardson on the mobile home subsidy.

## **OLDER AMERICANS AWARDS**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the Torrance Older Americans Award ceremony would be on May 11 at 7:00 p.m. during the City Council meeting and that the Commission's nominees, Janet Payne, Maureen O'Donnell and Caroline Elam would be honored at that time.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand announced that the Los Angeles County Older Americans Award Program would be on May 19 at 10:30 a.m. at the Hahn Hall of Administration. She stated that Janet Payne would be honored at the ceremony and would be accompanied by Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand, Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino and Commissioner Kraemer.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the election of officers would need to take place at the May meeting since the June meeting had been cancelled. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino had confirmed that she was willing to serve for another term as chairperson.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cardella moved and Commissioner Kraemer seconded, to nominate Chairperson Kimmel-Dagostino to serve another term as Chairperson. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Craft, Thomas and Chairperson Dagostino-Kimmel)

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cardella moved and Commissioner Robelotto seconded, to nominate Commissioner Kraemer to serve as Vice Chair. The motion carried. (Absent Commissioners Craft, Thomas and Chairperson Dagostino-Kimmel)

## **ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vickie Hershberger from Torrance Memorial Medical Center announced that there would be free blood pressure checks on May 12 and a lecture on June 7 on "Understanding Medigaps". She stated that there will also be a presentation on craniosacral therapy by Karen Axelrod on June 16 at 5:15 p.m. and a series of Life Planning Classes from June 10 through July 30<sup>th</sup>.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand presented a report from Phil Ross, Senior Librarian, on the success of the Senior Fair Library table. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that the Library incentives, such as the book themed license plate frames, were very popular. She also reported that the hip hop group from Hype Studio, was very popular.

Former Commissioner Griffith announced that Julia Rosenberg was reelected as a member of the California Senior legislature.

Former Commissioner Griffith announced that she had been reelected to the Los Angeles County Aging Commission.

In response to a question from Commissioner Kraemer, Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would check with the city as to why the Commission on Aging was not listed on the appointment list.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that Commissioner Thomas had not yet sent in her resignation and the City Clerk had advised that the Mayor send Commissioner Thomas a letter thanking her for her service to the city. Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that the City Clerk's office would then list the vacancy to be filled on the Commission of Aging.

Commissioner Kraemer reminded the Commission that the June meeting was cancelled and that the next meeting would be on July 13, 2010.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m. to the next meeting on Tuesday, July 13, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

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| Approved as Amended<br>July 13, 2010<br>s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk |
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